

SHEPHERD OF THE VALLEY NEWSLETTER

Volume 1, Issue 1

OCTOBER 2007

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

By Linda Rasmussen

It was wonderful to welcome everyone back on Rally Day! What fun we had getting back into our Sunday School routine. We listened to stories, talked about stewardship, thanked God for the many ways he has blessed us, sang songs of praise, made handprints and praying hand magnets, and had a snack of hand shaped cookies. Our theme this year is Praying Hands, Helping Hands. We are focusing on prayer and our relationship with God. We will be learning some new prayers and receiving prayer booklets with printed prayers and pages to write our own prayers. We are helping our neighbors this year in many ways. We have dedicated our offering to the ELCA's Global Barnyard project to help our neighbors across the world help themselves to a better life. We are collecting personal hygiene items, cleaning supplies, books, puzzles, and cards for the Hillsboro Family Shelter in conjunction with our Children's Sabbath program. We are also continuing our mitten tree (and adding socks!) for Care to Share and collecting food items for the Shepherd's Storehouse.

In September we learned about Ruth and Naomi and the love and commitment they had for one another. We discovered that when we love our neighbors intentionally, not only do they benefit, but it also brings us closer to understanding God's gracious love for us. We learned about community and being in fellowship with others in our community, at church, home, school and the larger world. Our average attendance for September was 18 children. We received \$135.00 monetary offering and 30 items for the Shepherd's Storehouse.

In October we will be learning about Moses' birth, rescue and call. Our main theme is that God is always with us, and it is

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the power of God that allows us to serve using the gifts he has given us to bring about the reality of his kingdom.

A big THANK YOU to all the adults who have been moved by the Holy Spirit to commit themselves to serving our children in this year's Sunday School program. You are touching young lives and sharing the journey of faith with God's eager young children. The Preschool parents are banding together to form a co-op showing our little ones that we truly have a faith FAMILY here at SOV. Brenda Plinke and Lorna Hodgin have teamed up to use puppets and prayer to help our kindies and 1st graders grow closer to God. Lisa Ramsey-Barnes, Debbie Johnson and Beth Kight have joined together to share Christ's love with the 2nd and 3rd graders. They also do some traveling back to Bible times—what fun! Linda Rasmussen is helping the 4th, 5th & 6th graders learn to serve and love intentionally as members of a faith community grounded in prayer and Jesus' commandment to love God and one another. Please pray for the teachers, children and families of our Sunday School this year.

Bibles will be presented to all 2nd grade children during both services on Reformation Sunday, October 28th. If you have an older child who has joined Sunday School and has not received a Bible from SOV please call Linda Rasmussen at 503.531.8699 so your child will receive the gift of God's word as well.



Feliz Navidad!!!!

Submitted by Wendy Roeder

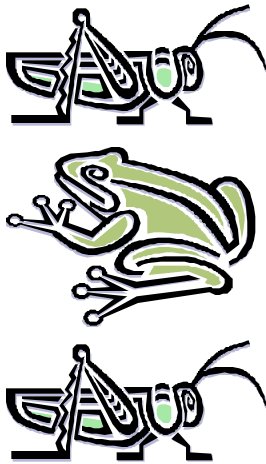
This year's Advent Fair is coming from south of the border. Previous years we have celebrated Scandinavian and German traditions so a little trip south will change things up. A planning meeting will be held in November, in the meantime e-mail or phone to let me know you are interested in helping. We will be selecting food for a luncheon and crafts native to the region. Pinatas, tamales, posadas, enchiladas----sounds like a great time. The date for the fair is set for December 2, the first day of Advent.

Contact Wendy Roeder, wsroeder@aol.com or phone 503-407-9876.



Plague Party

What do Moses, frogs, grasshoppers, red punch, and chocolate cupcakes have in common? Come to our plague party, Saturday, October 27 from 3:00 to 5:00 pm and find out! For more fun come dressed as an Israelite or Egyptian. Questions?? Call Linda Rasmussen @ 503.531.8699.



OCTOBER IS SOUP

Remember to bring your gifts of canned and packaged soup for the Shepherd's Storehouse. Share Christ's love with our neighbors who do not have enough to eat!



SAVE THE DATES

UPCOMING SUNDAY SCHOOL SPECIAL EVENTS

Sat Oct 27 3:00
Plague Party (Watch for details soon!)

Sun Oct 28
Bible Presentation Both Services



SUNDAY SCHOOL MITTEN TREE

Sunday School needs your HELP! We are sponsoring a mitten tree to help those less fortunate in our community keep warm these chilly fall and winter months. If you would like to help us share Christ's love of mankind, please bring a pair of new gloves or mittens (**SOCKS TOO!**) to clip on our tree. We will take all kinds—men's, women's, youth and children. If our tree fills up, we will add trees until we have a sock and mitten forest. Thanks in advance for your care of others.

SOV Bible Presentation

All 2nd grade children will be receiving the gift of God's word on Reformation Day, Sunday, October 28th at either service. If you have

an older child who has not received a Bible, please call Linda Rasmussen @ 503.531.8699.



THE
B*I*B*L*E
THAT'S THE
BOOK FOR
ME!

CONFIRMATION by Wendy Roeder

This is a great year at Shepherd as we again have a wonderful group of young teens in our Confirmation Program. Confirmands this year are Harvey Andersen, Nidhi George, Joseph Gilbertson, and Aaron Sugiyama. We begin the year of study with the 10 Commandments as outlined in Luther's Small Catechism. Then at the end of October, we will move on to the Apostle's Creed. They are also working on memorizing the books of the Bible (in small increments--whew!).



We are planning a Christmas Greens fundraiser to raise funds for the spring retreat. More information will be available in late October. The greens will include wreaths and garlands, great additions for a festive Advent season that will be here before we know it.

Our leader Mindy Hart has darted away on her honeymoon, but will be back the end of October. In the meantime, Pastor Michelle and Wendy Roeder are leading the class.



We ask that you hold up these young people up in prayer and support them in this important step in their Christian life. Please contact Pastor Michelle if you are in 7th or 8th grade and want to enroll in this program.

- **KEEP A SENSE OF HUMOR.**

HOW TO STAY WELL BY Corrine Gilbertson

- **DO THINGS** that bring a sense of fulfillment, joy, and purpose, and which validate your worth.
- **PAY CLOSE & LOVING ATTENTION TO YOURSELF,** turning in to your needs on all levels. Take care of yourself, nourishing, supporting and encouraging yourself.
- **RELEASE ALL NEGATIVE EMOTIONS;** resentment, envy, fear,
- sadness, anger. Express your feelings appropriately; don't hold onto them.
- **HOLD POSITIVE IMAGES** and goals in your mind, picture what you truly want in your life.
- **LOVE YOURSELF** Make love the purpose & primary expression in your life.
- **CREATE FUN, LOVING HONEST RELATIONSHIPS**
- **MAKE A POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION** to your community through some form of work service that you value & enjoy.
- **MAKE A COMMITMENT TO HEALTH** and develop your own program.
- **ACCEPT YOURSELF** & everything in your life as an opportunity for growth & learning. Be grateful. When you mess up, forgive yourself, learn what you can from the experience & then move on.

PRAYER!!
Pray for your Health! Life is a Gift from God! Treasure it and give Him Thanks!

Ephesians 5:20 Always give thanks for everything to our God and Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

SOCIAL CONCERNS...submitted by Mert Warneking

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OUTREACH FOR AUGUST

The backpacks will be separate from the normal Social Concerns activities.

Regular: We spent 79 hrs. @ \$10 per hr. for a total of \$790 and 1,015 miles @ \$.45 per mile = \$457. We had in kind donations of \$2,050. (Social Concerns is collecting furniture for Desire's brother and his family.)

\$345 was spent on 10 food baskets which included \$96.00 in donated food.

\$104 was spent on refugees and \$239 on Desire and his brother. (Paid by LCS)

\$600 was spent on helping a couple of families.

\$441.00 was spent on backpacks this month.

Backpacks: We spent 136 hrs. @ \$10 per hr. for a total of \$1,360 and 553 miles @ \$.45 per mile = \$249.

If you combine the 2, the total outreach is \$6,638 and offerings for August were \$8,320 for a total of \$14,958. The % of Outreach to Outreach + offerings is 44%.

We gave 133 backpacks with supplies (a few had only the basic supplies) and 50 empty backpacks to Hispanic Headstart. We gave 8 backpacks (with some supplies) (plus all the leftover supplies to the Children's Sabbath project. We didn't spend any money on the backpacks themselves. Some were given to us and we

discovered that we had some empty backpacks in Shepherd's Storehouse from last year. We spent \$854.76 on supplies. If you estimate the value of the backpacks and add in the supplies we purchased, the backpacks with supplies cost \$11 each. Thrivent gave us \$400.

Our next project will be the Thanks Giving dinner on Nov. 4th at 5:00 pm. The Fellowship Committee will be helping us. Since we buy the meat, dressing, potatoes, gravy and supplies, we are asking for donations.



- **We will be giving out Thanksgiving baskets on 11/17. We are asking for donations for the baskets. Thrivent is giving us \$600 to match the \$600 that we need to raise.**

The Blessing of the Animals

*All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all.*

All human members of Shepherd of the Valley are encouraged to bring their furry, finned, and feathered friends to church on Sunday, October 7th.

Immediately following each worship service, we will gather outside in the parking lot for a special blessing of the animals.

Thanks Giving Dinner

Sunday, November 4 at 5:00 PM

submitted by Kari Pinc, Fellowship Co-Chair

Please join us to Give Thanks and celebrate our new programs, welcome new members, and get to know our refugee families. We will serve turkey, roast beef, ham, and the fixings, and ask for potluck salads, vegetables, and dessert or make your favorite family dish to share. Don't feel you have to bring a dish—we need also need help setting up, cooking, serving and cleaning up, and we need donations in advance to defray costs.

Please mark your donation "Thanks Giving Dinner" to distinguish from food baskets or other donations. Contact Social Concerns or Fellowship if you have questions or would like to help.

'Thanks Giving' Dinner. Would you like to join the fun?? All are welcome. The meeting is Sunday October 7th right after second service. Hope to see you there.



Submitted by Peggy Vermaas, SOV Vice -President

'THANKS' GIVING DINNER MEETING: The Fellowship and Social Concerns Committees are working together to organize the

LOOKING FOR...submitted by Peggy Vermaas

SOV is looking for a computer desk that is like a hutch ie has doors that close and lock? We are looking for one as a secured work space for our

Music Minister, Kevin. Please contact the church if you have one that you would like to donate to the church. We need this within the

next month. Or, do you know of a way to get one at a discounted price. Your help is appreciated.



OCTOBER 2007 CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Sunday, Oct. 7th Blessing of the Pets Sunday 	1 1:00p—Prayer Ministry 6:30p—Parish Ed @ Rasmussens 6:30p—Men's Group—Old Chi- cago Pizza	2 7:15a—Coffee @ Tanasbourne Starbucks 9:00a—KOK Chapel 6:30p—Jr. Choir	3 7:00p—Choir Practice	4 11:15a— Rebecca Circle 6:30p—Caring & Sharing	5 7:00-10:00p SDA Church	6 1:00p—4:30 p Children's Sab- bath @ SOV 7:00-10:00p SDA Church
7 8:30 & 11:00 a Worship 9:45a—S. School & Confirmation 10:00a—Adult Class	8 1:00p—Prayer Ministry 7p Scouts	2 7:15a—Coffee @ Tanasbourne Starbucks 9:00a—KOK Chapel 6:30p—Jr. Choir	10 7:00p—Choir Practice	11 7:00-10:00p SDA Church	12 7:00-10:00p SDA Church	13 8:30 a— 3:00p—Church Council Retreat @ Finleys Fu- neral Home 7:00-10:00p SDA Church
14 8:30 & 11:00 a Worship 9:45a—S. School & Confirmation 10:00a—Adult Class	15 1:00p—Prayer Ministry 6:00p—SOV Exec. Meets 7p Scouts	16 7:15a—Coffee @ Tanasbourne Starbucks 9:00a—KOK Chapel 6:30p—SOV Women's Dinner 6:30p—Jr. Choir	17 7:00p—Choir Practice	18 6:30p—Caring & Sharing 7p—Church Council Meeting	19 7:00-10:00p SDA Church	20 7:00-10:00p SDA Church
21 8:30 & 11:00 a Worship 9:45a—S. School & Confirmation 10:00a—Adult Class	22 1:00p—Prayer Ministry 7p Scouts	23 7:15a—Coffee @ Tanasbourne Starbucks 9:00a—KOK Chapel 5:00-8:00p—KOK Board 6:30p—Jr. Choir	24 7:00p—Choir Practice	25 NEWSLETTER DAY	26 7:00-10:00p SDA Church	27  3:00-5:00p— Plague Party
28 8:30 & 11:00 a Worship 9:45a—S. School & Confirmation 10:00a—Adult Class	29 1:00p—Prayer Ministry 7p Scouts	23 7:15a— Coffee @ Tanas- bourne Star- bucks 9:00a—KOK Chapel 6:30p—Jr. Choir	31 7:00p—Choir Practice Reformation Day	Sunday, Sept. 28th— Bible presen- tation both services		

October 6 - Celebrate the kid in all of us!

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. 1 John 3:1a

The afternoon of October 6 will see SOV humming with activity as children of all ages come together in fellowship. Lunch will be served starting at 1 p.m. and the program will be from 2:30 – 4:30. Many fun activities are planned, including making communion bread, playing some sports,

Submitted by Shannon Heizenrader

learning about safety and health as well as making craft projects.

We are collecting items for the Hillsboro Family Shelter. They are in need of cleaning supplies, linens, personal hygiene items, bus tickets, day planners, infant supplies, medical supplies and birthday items (wrapping paper, new toys, board games, and teen gift items.) They also could use items for children including school supplies, coloring books, early reader books,

socks, underwear and crayons.

We hope to see you on October 6!

Thanks to this year's committee: Co-chairs Johana Haydamack and Shannon Heizenrader, Corrine Gilbertson, Andrea Gorven, Theresa Kotvis, Diane Lewis and Tammy McDonald.

HOUSEKEEPING IN THE CHURCH... Submitted by Nancy Shetterly

I suppose everyone has heard the saying "A place for everything and everything in it's place.

This is especially important in the church building since so many folks use the church, not only on Sunday, but every day of the week.

When an article or articles are left in the church office or elsewhere on the premises and no note, phone message or e-mail is left with the church office explaining why the article has been left, then time is taken up trying to locate the

person for whom it was left.

Also, when furniture or other items are moved around or taken from the

A PLACE FOR EVERYTHING AND
EVERYTHING IN IT'S PLACE...

church with no explanation, then time is taken trying to figure out if an article was borrowed or stolen, when it might be returned, etc. Right now, volunteers are helping to clean out the office, and storage is at a premium until the new building is built.

So, if you want to leave something here for someone else, please leave a note, or a phone message(645-4994) or e-mail:

secretarySOV@gmail.com

with an explanation. This also applies if you wish to donate an article to the church or store something at the church.

Thanks to everyone for help with this.



Dear Friends in Christ,

What a busy month September was! In the past few weeks, we as a congregation have accomplished the following: a new prayer ministry has been launched; we have celebrated Rally Day; the Call Committee has met with Assistant to the Bishop Zane Wilson; the new youth choir had its first rehearsal; the Capital Campaign Steering Committee has interviewed three consultants; and Caring and Sharing has regrouped and had its first meeting.

It continues to delight me to see new people stepping up to help out in new ways. One of your leaders shared we me that this year there is better committee participation than she has ever seen here! ...Looking ahead, SOV will continue to be a "happening place," as we celebrate Children's Sabbath on Oct. 6th, bless our furry and feathered friends on Oct 7th, gather for our Church Council planning retreat on October 13th, and hold a healing service on Oct. 14th, have a "Plague Party(!)" on October 27th, celebrate Reformation Sunday on October 28th, remember the saints and lift up the education ministries of KOK and host a Thanksgiving Dinner on November 4th. I understand that there will also be a Thanksgiving basket project and an Advent fair coming up. Busy, busy, busy! All this is wonderful ministry, but we must be sure to take time along the way to worship and rest in God's presence, so that we don't burn out.... As I told the confirmands recently, God gives us the gift of the Sabbath, so that we can rest and be renewed for a life of service.

The timing of your Call Committee's gatherings and the beginning of the Capital Campaign will be vital for the successful outcome of both of these efforts. The goal is to rally the congregation and get everyone excited about your MINISTRY here, because that's what it's all about. The better you understand who you are as a congregation and how your ministry reaches out into the wider community, the more likely you will be to find a good leadership match in your new pastor. The same holds true for your building project: The stronger your congregational identity and unity, the more people will get excited about the prospect of a new church building in which to house your ministry.

As we move forward into the future God is preparing for Shepherd of the Valley, I want us to keep reminding each other that we need to measure our steps and be intentional about not leaving anyone behind. I'm still acutely aware of many members and friends of SOV who are hurting in many different ways, and I'm sure that there are others of whom I am not aware. Please be gentle with one another and hold each other up in prayer. Make that phone call and ask someone, "How're you doing?," or tell them that you've missed seeing them in worship. To quote Mother Teresa once again, "We can do no great things. We can only do small things with great love." ...And that makes all the difference in the world!

In Christ's Service,

Pastor Michelle Manicke